

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for providing supply chain/workflow services in a contract
2 manufacturing framework comprising the steps of:
3 (a) providing a database including a plurality of service provider data structures,
4 wherein each service provider data structure includes a description of a
5 particular service provider, and wherein the database further includes a
6 request for proposal mechanism;
7 (b) identifying a particular service provider data structure based on a request for
8 proposal from a user utilizing the request for proposal mechanism; and
9 (c) affording project management services to the user based on the request for
10 proposal and the identified service provider data structure.
- 1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, further including the step of tracking a status
2 of manufacturing processes performed by the identified service provider.
- 1 3. A method as recited in claim 1, further including the step of allowing the user
2 to inquiry service engineers.
- 1 4. A method as recited in claim 1, further including the step of allowing the user
2 to inquiry service chemists.
- 1 5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the database is accessed utilizing a
2 network.
- 1 6. A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the network is the Internet.
- 1 7. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for
2 providing supply chain/workflow services in a contract manufacturing
3 framework comprising:

- 4 (a) a code segment for providing a database including a plurality of service
5 provider data structures, wherein each service provider data structure
6 includes a description of a particular service provider, and wherein the
7 database further includes a request for proposal mechanism;
8 (b) a code segment for identifying a particular service provider data structure
9 based on a request for proposal from a user utilizing the request for proposal
10 mechanism; and
11 (c) a code segment for affording project management services to the user based
12 on the request for proposal and the identified service provider data structure.

1 8. A computer program as recited in claim 7, further including a code segment
2 for tracking a status of manufacturing processes performed by the identified
3 service provider.

1 9. A computer program as recited in claim 7, further including a code segment
2 for allowing the user to inquiry service engineers.

1 10. A computer program as recited in claim 7, further including a code segment
2 for allowing the user to inquiry service chemists.

1 11. A computer program as recited in claim 7, wherein the database is accessed
2 utilizing a network.

1 12. A computer program as recited in claim 11, wherein the network is the
2 Internet.

1 13. A system for providing supply chain/workflow services in a contract
2 manufacturing framework comprising:
3 (a) logic for providing a database including a plurality of service provider data
4 structures, wherein each service provider data structure includes a description
5 of a particular service provider, and wherein the database further includes a
6 request for proposal mechanism;

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